



IPW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Peter-Franz ARNOLD, *et al*

Application No. 10/815,997

Confirmation No.: 7273

Filed: April 2, 2004

For: METHOD AND MACHINE FOR
PRODUCING A CONTINUOUS
FILTER ROD

Art Unit: 1731

Examiner: *Unassigned*

Atty. Docket No.: 41653-200975

Customer No. **26694**
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

This is an Information Disclosure Statement submitted under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 within the time specified under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

Enclosed is a copy of a European Patent Office Communication citing seven (7) patent documents. Cite Nos. AA-EE are U.S. patent documents so no copies of those documents need to be attached. Great Britain 718,332 was previously submitted in the Information Disclosure Statement dated April 2, 2004. A copy of the other Great Britain document (GG) is attached. Since the references are in English, no further statement of relevancy is required.

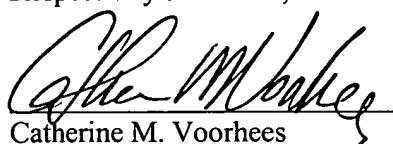
A Form PTO SB/08A identifying all of the references cited in the European Patent Office Communication is also attached.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), on information and belief, and based on the date of the enclosed European Patent Office Action, the references contained in this Information Disclosure Statement were first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, and therefore no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In view of the above, no further translation or statement of relevance is required, and as all requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and all official guide lines pertaining to Information Disclosure Statements have been complied with, and it is therefore respectfully requested that the Examiner consider the documents and make them of record.

Respectfully submitted,



Catherine M. Voorhees

Registration No. 33,074

VENABLE LLP

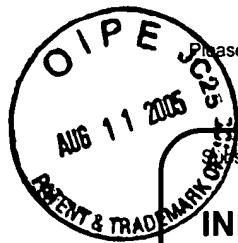
P.O. Box 34385

Washington, D.C. 20043-9998

Telephone: (202) 344-4000

Telefax: (202) 344-8300

CMV/elw
DC2/672018



Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box →

PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Shee

of 1

| Complete if Known | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Application Number | 10/815,997 |
| Filing Date | May 2, 2004 |
| First Named Inventor | Peter-Franz ARNOLD, <i>et al</i> |
| Group Art Unit | 1731 |
| Examiner Name | Unassigned |
| Attorney Docket Number | 41653-200975 |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | | | |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

DC2/672020

VENABLE WILLIAMS LLP